

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the recognition of patentable subject matter in the present application.

Applicants hereby add new claims 41-42 and cancel claims 34 and 38.

Claims 1, 3-16, 24, 30, 32, 33, 37, 39, and 40 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) for anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 6,978,255 to Pauschinger et al.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections.

Referring to independent claim 1, the method recites limitations of previously pending claim 34 indicated in the office action to be allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable in consideration of the indicated allowability of claim 34. Allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested in the next Action.

The claims which depend from claim 1 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to independent claim 9, the system recites limitations of previously pending claim 38 indicated in the office action to be allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is allowable in consideration of the indicated allowability of claim 38. Allowance of claim 9 is respectfully requested in the next Action.

The claims which depend from claim 9 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Applicants hereby add new claims 41-42. New claim 41 includes the limitations of claims 1 and 26 and new claim 41 is believed to be allowable in view of the indicated allowability of claim 26 in the office action. New claim 42 depends from new claim 41 and corresponds to claim 31 and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned if the Examiner believes such would facilitate prosecution of the present application. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time during normal business hours (Pacific Time Zone).

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Serial No. 09/932,631
Amendment D*

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Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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Amendment D